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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Kongop Chisik, organ of the North Korea Federation for the Advancement of Industrial Technology.

HUNGNAM RESEARCH CENTER HELPS DEVELOP BALANCED INDUSTRY

Yo Tong-ku, Director Hungnam Research Center Hungnam, Hamgyong Namdo

The Hungmam Research Center was established on 1 June 1948 as a research and experimental center under the supervision of the Chemical Industry Control Bureau of the Ministry of Industry, Democratic People's Republic of Korea. On 15 May 1949, it was removed from the bureau and placed under direct control of the Ministry of Industry. The Hungman Research Center is the successor to the Consolidated Research Center of the Hungman District People's Factory combine. The reorganization was accompanied with a considerable expansion of research facilities. The first notable research accomplishment by the Consolidated Research Center during 1946 - 1947 was the development of a method of making nitric acid from acetylene. This was immediately put into production at the Ponkung Plant. Other research projects included refining of the domestic tungsten ore, and manufacturing of electrical insulating paint from castor beans.

On 1 November 1948, the Hungman Research Center was visited by Vice Premier Kim Ch'aek, who has been extremely interested in the development of this research center. He instructed us that the former Japanese school buildings and official residences in the vicinities of the research center would be converted into laboratories. At present, the center occupies 2,979,010 square meters of land and some 50 laboratories. An additional experimental factory is being constructed for development of a new dyestuff which has just passed the primary experimental stage.

Our mission, as it was made clear by Premier Kim Il-song, is to help develop a balanced industry for the People's Republic by exploring the best uses of the resources available in North Korea, and ultimately achieve a selfsufficient economy. Currently, the Hungmam Research Center is equipped with laboratories for the following basic researches:

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- 1. Basic chemical
- Acetylene derivatives
- 3. Dyestuffs, gunpowder
- 4. Pitch, paint, natural organic-materials
- 5. Fertilizer, high-pressure synthesis
- 6. Inorganic drugs, including metal derivatives
- 7. Medical
- 8. Applied electrical technology

The center is currently engaged in the following research projects:

- 1. Synthetic scap
- 2. Manufacture of carbon tetrachloride
- Synthetic rubber
- 4. Manufacture of ethylene dichloride
- 5. Manufacture of meta-acetaldehyde
- 6. Manufacture of sulfur dyes SBT
- Dyestuffs for cotton fabrics.
- 8. Vitamin B
- 9. Aniline
- 10. Manufacture of carbolic acid
- 11. Manufacture of waterproof paint, using mainly iron oxide
- 12. Manufacture of soap ingredients
- 13. Cosmetics
- 14. Development of electric insulating paint
- 15. Chemicals for mineral selection
- 16. Manufacture of active carbon
- 17. Iron-bismuth for ammonium oxide and platinum
- 18. Development work on methanol
- 19. Humidity-proof ammonium nitrate
- 20. Coke manufacture
- 21. Utilization of coke by-products as nitrogenous fertilizers
- 22. Extraction of potassium chloride from potassium ore having a high content of felspar

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- 23. Manufacture of basic magnesium carbonate for the rubber industry
- 24. Coking peat
- 25. Manufacture of special flannel
- 26. Manufacture of special brick
- 27. Manufacture of special metal apparatus
- 28... Manufacture of "empire" cloth and silk
- 29. Manufacture of pressure punch "hwaipii" / "YP" 37
- 30. Manufacture of special storage battery

The major accomplishments of the research center since June 1948 are as follow:

- 1. Research on the method of producing vanadium pentoxide for manufacturing contact-process sulfuric acid. The above method has been adopted by the Hungnam Fertilizer Plant.
- 2. Successful experiments on the use of manganese dioxide as substitute of potassium sulfate ... glacial acetic acid. The method has been adopted by the Ponkung Chemical Plant.
- 3. A good quality aspirin is being manufactured in quantity at the Ponkung Pharmaceutical Plant 39 52 N 127 34 E, NW of Hungnam after research.
 - 4. Manufacturing of DDT, mercurochrome, enameled electric wire.
 - 5. Research on derivatives of benzene and naphthalene.
 - 6. Research on processing of sulfuric acid.

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